REPRINT FROM THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ROYAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH

SESSION 1936–1937

VOL. LVII—PART IV

Obituary Notice.

John Anderson Gilruth, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.Sc.(Melb.).

EDINBURGH

PUBLISHED BY ROBERT GRANT & SON, LTD., 126 PRINCES STREET, AND
WILLIAMS & NORGATE, LTD., 36 GREAT RUSSELL STREET, LONDON, W.C. 1

MCMXXXVIII

John Anderson Gilruth, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.Sc.(Melb.).

BORN near Arbroath, John Anderson Gilruth died at Melbourne on March 4, 1937, at the age of sixty-six. His intimate association in early life with farm-stock in general and sheep in particular provided him with practical experience that was to place him at great advantage when subsequently confronted with the major problems of his professional work. He spent some time in a solicitor's office, but soon determined to forsake law for veterinary science. He received his professional training in Glasgow and London, and obtained the diploma of M.R.C.V.S. in 1892. About a year later, while still in his early twenties, he was appointed to the Government Veterinary Service of New Zealand. After a period at the Pasteur Institute at Paris, he assumed the office of Pathologist to the New Zealand Health Department, an appointment he combined with research and administrative duties in connection with the Live Stock Division of the Department of Agriculture.

In 1908 Gilruth left New Zealand on his selection as Professor of Veterinary Pathology and Director of the Research Institute of the University of Melbourne. In 1911 he became a member of the Federal Scientific Mission, and in the following year was appointed Administrator of the Northern Territory when this was transferred from South Australia to the Commonwealth. He held the post of Administrator until 1920, when he returned to Melbourne to be entrusted shortly afterwards with the duties of Chief of the Division of Animal Health of the Commonwealth Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

To Gilruth New Zealand owes much, for he was largely concerned in the framing of the Act of Parliament of 1900 which led to reform in the production of meat for export, upon which the prosperity of the country so largely depends.

A man of remarkable personality and great forcefulness, Gilruth made many contributions to Government publications, and for some years was Corresponding Member of the Société de Pathologie Exotique of Paris.

He was elected a Fellow of this Society in 1907.

O. C. B.